

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLICATION NO. 10/660,703

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7 are all the claims pending in the application.

Abstract:

The Abstract of the disclosure is objected to because "a map storing unit," in lines 3-4 is repeated. The Abstract is hereby amended to correct the repetition. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Claim Objections:

Claims 1, 5 and 7 are objected to because the Examiner requests that various semicolons be replaced with commas, as noted in section 2 of the Office Action. Applicant amends the claims to address the areas noted by the Examiner and requests withdrawal of the objection.

35 U.S.C. § 112:

Claims 3, 4, and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite because of the issues noted in section 4 of the Office Action. Applicant hereby amends claims 3, 4, and 5 to address the points raised by the Examiner and requests the rejection to be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §:

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hirano et al. (6,879,909 [hereinafter "Hirano"]). Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakano et al. (6,334,087 [hereinafter "Nakako"]).

Applicant submits that rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 are proper only when each element of the claimed subject matter is disclosed in the cited reference. Both Hirano and Nakano fail to disclose each element of the subject matter recited in claims 1, 5 and 7.

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In particular, claims 1, 5 and 7 are directed to novel combinations of elements that respectively form a new and unobvious device, system and method. For example, claim 1 describes, *inter alia*, a communication control unit configured to control the communication unit to transmit the control information stored in the control information storing unit to the information center on prescribed times so as to receive latest control information transmitted from the information center. This allows for sending and receiving of control information between the information center and the terminal. At least this feature is not disclosed by Hirano and Nakano.

Further, claim 5 recites, *inter alia*, that the terminal device transmits the control information to the information center on prescribed times, and that the information center transmits the latest control information to the terminal device in response to the control information transmitted from the terminal device. This feature is similarly not disclosed by Hirano and Nakano

Moreover, claim 7 recites, *inter alia*, transmitting the control information stored in the control information storing unit to the information center on prescribed times, and receiving latest control information transmitted from the information center in response to the transmitting of the control information. This feature is likewise not disclosed by Hirano and Nakano.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the above-noted features, along with the other features respectively recited in the claims, provide unique combinations of elements that are not disclosed by Hirano and Nakano, such that the rejections of claims 1, 5 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn. The rejection of claims 2-4 should also be withdrawn at least due to these claims depending from claim 1.

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In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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